

REMARKS

Substance of Telephonic Interview.

Applicants wish to express appreciation to Examiner Christopher Lavin for the courtesy of a telephonic interview held with Applicants' representative Michael Faibisch (Reg. No. 48,427) on December 13, 2006. In the interview the Examiner pointed out that adding language to claim 16 to indicate that the pattern on the lower layer is a circuitry pattern would distinguish claim 16 over Kosmowski et al. (US 5,529,441).

General Remarks

Claims 16 - 18 and 20 - 24 are pending in the application. Claims 17, 18 and 20 - 24 are allowed. Claim 16 is currently amended with the self-explanatory amendments shown above. Support for the proposed amendment is found at Figs. 10A, 10B and at paragraph [0134] of the Patent Application Publication, *inter alia*.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kosmowski et al. (U.S. 5,529,441). Kosmowski et al. discloses drill coordinate optimization for multi-layer printed circuit board to correct for interlayer shift during lamination, however the patterns on lower layers of the multi-layer printed circuit boards are not circuitry patterns.

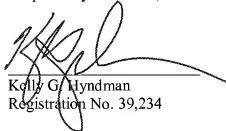
Claim 16 has been amended to distinctly point out that the at least two holes in the upper layer are provided in predetermined alignment to a circuitry pattern formed on at least one lower layer of the multi-layered printed circuit board substrate. As pointed out by the Examiner in the telephonic interview, this feature is not shown or described in Kosmowski et al.

In view of the foregoing, and arguments advanced in previous responses, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 16 is patentable over Kosmowski et al. and request that the rejection of claim 16 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Applicant herewith petitions the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Unless a check is attached, any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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